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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/428,384	10/28/1999	STEPHEN WILLARD DICKSON	15311-2207	4583

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EXAMINER
LY, ANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2172	

DATE MAILED: 01/31/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/428,384	Applicant(s) DICKSON, STEPHEN WILLARD
	Examiner Anh Ly	Art Unit 2172

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _28 October 1999_.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-37_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-37_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _3_.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-37 are pending in this application.

Claim Objections

2.   Claims 15-17, 22-23, 28, 31, 34 and 37 are objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 21:

* the first line of claim 15, --A system according to claim 13-- should be read "A system according to claim 14"

* the first line of claim 16, --A system according to claim 13-- should be read "A system according to claim 14"

* the first line of claim 17, --A system according to claim 13-- should be read "A system according to claim 14"

On page 22:

* the first line of claim 22, --Computer-readable memory according to claim 18-- should be read "Computer-readable memory according to claim 19"

* the first line of claim 23, --A system according to claim 21—should be read "A system according to claim 19"

On page 23:

* the first line of claim 28, --A system according to claim 26-- should be read "A

system according to claim 27"

On page 24:

* the first line of claim 31, --A method according to claim 29-- should be read "A

method according to claim 30"

* the first line of claim 34, --A method according to claim 32-- should be read "A

method according to claim 33"

and on page 25:

* the first line of claim 35, --A method according to claim 32-- should be read "A

method according to claim 33"

* the first line of claim 37, --A method according to claim 35-- should be read "A

method according to claim 36."

Appropriate corrections are required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 1-37 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US

Patent No. 5,987,477 issued to Schmuck et al. (hereinafter as Schmuck).

With respect to claim 1, Schmuck discloses a first process that maintains a data file in computer-readable memory (see abstract, col. 16, lines 10—25 and lines 40-49, col. 24, lines 48-58 and col. 26, lines 19-24; col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44, lines 46-58); and a second process that generates a first message requesting that said second process be granted by said first process a plurality of tokens required for said second process to modify at least one characteristic of said file (col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36); said first process generating a second message, in response to said first message, that grants said tokens to said first process if said tokens are available for grant to said second process (col. 19, lines 25-67 and col. 20, lines 1-6; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36).

Schmuck does not clearly disclose, "a first process that maintaining a data file in computer-readable memory and a second process that generates a first message...", But, however, Schmuck teaches a shared disk file system or file system's cache utilization as well as server node as first process (col. 16, lines 10-25 and lines 40-49 and col. 24, lines 48-58) and client node as second process (col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Schmuck such as file system's cache, server node and client node so as to have a computerized data file system in the client/server or distributed file system via network file system environment.

With respect to claim 2, Schmuck discloses said first process is resident at a

server computer node, and said second process is resident at a client computer node

(col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44, lines 46-58; col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59).

With respect to claim 3, Schmuck discloses if any of said tokens are unavailable

for grant to said second process as a result of current grant of said tokens to at least

one other process, said first process generates a third message revoking the current

grant of said tokens to said at least one other process (see fig. 2; col. 36, lines 12-67,

col. 37, lines 1-15, col. 40, lines 16-21 and col. 54, lines 24-51).

With respect to claim 4, Schmuck discloses said at least one other process (col.

31, lines 29-36), in response to said third message, generates a fourth message making

said tokens available for grant by said first process (see fig. 2; col. 31, lines 54-67 and

col. 32, lines 1-36; col. 30, lines 54-58 and col. 31, lines 29-36).

With respect to claim 5, Schmuck discloses said first process resides in a first

computer node (col. 16, lines 10-25 and lines 40-49, col. 24, lines 48-58 and col. 26,

lines 19-24; col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44, lines 46-58); said second process resides

in a second computer node (col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59; col. 31, lines 54-

67 and col. 32, lines 1-36); said at least one other process resides in at least one other

computer node (see fig. 2; col. 36, lines 12-67, col. 37, lines 1-15, col. 40, lines 16-21

and col. 54, lines 24-51); and said first computer, second computer, and at least one

other computer nodes are networked together and are remote from each other (see fig.

1, col. 1, lines 56-65, col. 2, lines 22-27, col. 3, lines 12-24; col. 5, lines 25-30 and col.

16, lines 10-25).

With respect to claim 6, Schmuck discloses a first process residing in said node that generates a first message that grants a set of tokens, if the set of tokens is available for grant (see fig. 1 and fig. 2, col. 31, lines 54-67, col. 32, lines 1-36; col. 37, lines 25-36), to a second process (col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36) that requested grant of the set of tokens, the set of tokens being required for the second process to be able to modify at least one characteristic of a file stored in computer-readable memory (see abstract, col. 16, lines 10-25, col. 20, lines 44-57).

Schmuck does not clearly disclose, "a first process that maintaining a data file in computer-readable memory and a second process that generates a first message... and a set of tokens..." But, however, Schmuck teaches a shared disk file system or file system's cache utilization as well as server node as first process (col. 16, lines 10-25 and lines 40-49 and col. 24, lines 48-58) and client node as second process (col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59); and token manager grants tokens to nodes or nodes that hold conflicting tokens as a set of tokens (col. 31, lines 42-53 and col. 36, lines 1-4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Schmuck such as file system's cache, server node and client node so as to have a computer node in the client/server or distributed file system via network file system environment.

With respect to claim 7, Schmuck discloses each of the processes resides in a respective one of computer nodes (col. 16, lines 10-25; col. 35, lines 32-46 and lines 52-60 and col. 36, lines 29-52).

With respect to claim 8, Schmuck discloses one of the processes resides in a

server computer node and the other of the processes resides in a client computer node

(col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44, lines 46-58; col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59).

With respect to claim 9, Schmuck discloses if at least one token in the set of

tokens is unavailable for grant because the at least one token is currently granted to a

third process, the first process also generates a second message that revokes current

grant of the at least one token to the third process prior to generating the first message

(see fig. 2; col. 36, lines 12-67, col. 37, lines 1-15, col. 40, lines 16-21 and col. 54, lines

24-51; col. 31, lines 42-53 and col. 36, lines 1-4).

With respect to claim 10, Schmuck discloses the first message is generated by

the first process in response to a request for the grant of the set of tokens generated by

the second process, the request specifying all tokens required for the second process to

be able to modify the at least one characteristic of the file (col. 31, lines 54-67 and col.

32, lines 1-36; see abstract, col. 16, lines 10-25 and lines 40-49, col. 24, lines 48-58 and

col. 26, lines 19-24; col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44, lines 46-58; col. 16, lines 52-67,

col. 17, lines 1-20 and col. 30, lines 59-65).

With respect to claim 11, Schmuck discloses a first process residing in said node

that generates a request to a second process for grant of a set of tokens required to

enable the first process to modify at least one characteristic of a file residing in

computer-readable memory (see abstract, col. 16, lines 10—25 and lines 40-49, col. 24,

lines 48-58 and col. 26, lines 19-24; col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44, lines 46-58; col. 45,

lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36).

Schmuck does not clearly disclose, "a first process ..., a second process ... and a set of tokens..." But, however, Schmuck teaches a shared disk file system or file system's cache utilization as well as server node as first process (col. 16, lines 10-25 and lines 40-49 and col. 24, lines 48-58) and client node as second process (col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59); and token manager grants tokens to nodes or nodes that hold conflicting tokens as a set of tokens (col. 31, lines 42-53 and col. 36, lines 1-4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Schmuck such as file system's cache, server node and client node so as to have a computer node in the client/server or distributed file system via network file system environment.

With respect to claim 12, Schmuck discloses the second process resides in a second computer node, and the memory is comprised in said second node (col. 17, lines 10-20, col. 30, lines 54-58 and col. 31, lines 29-36).

With respect to claim 13, Schmuck discloses the set of tokens comprises all tokens required for the first process to be able to modify the at least one characteristic of the file (col. 18, lines 59-67 and col. 19, lines 1-16).

With respect to claim 14, Schmuck discloses a first computer node having a data file in computer-readable memory; and a second computer node that issues to the first computer node a first message requesting grant of a set of tokens required to carry out a modification of at least one characteristic of said file; the first computer node issuing a second message to the second computer node after receipt of the first message, the second message granting the set of tokens to the first process if the set of tokens is

available for grant to the second process (see abstract, see fig. 1 and 2; col. 16, lines

10—25 and lines 40-49, col. 24, lines 48-58 and col. 26, lines 19-24; col. 39, lines 58-63

and col. 44, lines 46-58; col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59; col. 31, lines 54-67

and col. 32, lines 1-36).

Schmuck does not clearly disclose, "a first process ..., a second process ... and

a set of tokens..." But, however, Schmuck teaches a shared disk file system or file

system's cache utilization as well as server node as first process (see fig. 1 and fig. 2,

col. 16, lines 10-25 and lines 40-49 and col. 24, lines 48-58) and client node as second

process (col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59); and token manager grants tokens

to nodes or nodes that hold conflicting tokens as a set of tokens (col. 31, lines 42-53

and col. 36, lines 1-4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in

the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Schmuck such as

file system's cache, server node and client node so as to have a network computer

node in the client/server or distributed file system via network file system environment.

With respect to claim 15, Schmuck discloses the first computer node is a server

node, and the second computer node is a non-server node (col. 39, lines 58-63 and col.

44, lines 46-58; col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59).

With respect to claim 16, Schmuck discloses the set of tokens comprises all

tokens required to carryout the modification of the at least one characteristic of the file

(col. 5, lines 32-40, col. 17, lines 10-20, col. 18, lines 59-67 and col. 19, lines 1-16).

With respect to claim 17, if at least one token in the set of tokens is unavailable

for the grant because the at least one token is currently granted, the first computer node

waits to issue the first message until after the first computer node receives a third

message from a third computer node indicating relinquishment of current grant of the at

least one token (col. 36, lines 12-61; col. 18, lines 59-67, col. 19, lines 1-16 and col. 36,

lines 29-52; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36).

With respect to claim 18, Schmuck discloses the at least one token comprises a

plurality of tokens (col. 40, lines 16-21).

Claim 19 is essentially the same as claim 1 except that it is directed to a

computer-readable memory containing computer-executable program instructions rather

than a computerized data file system (see abstract, col. 16, lines 10—25 and lines 40-

49, col. 24, lines 48-58 and col. 26, lines 19-24; col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44, lines

46-58; col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines

1-36; col. 19, lines 25-67 and col. 20, lines 1-6; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-

36), and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 1 hereinabove.

Claim 20 is essentially the same as claim 6 except that it is directed to a

computer-readable memory containing computer-executable program instructions rather

than a computerized data file system (see fig. 1 and fig. 2, col. 31, lines 54-67, col. 32,

lines 1-36; col. 37, lines 25-36; col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59; col. 31, lines

54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36; see abstract, col. 16, lines 10-25, col. 20, lines 44-57),

and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 6 hereinabove.

With respect to claim 21, Schmuck discloses first instructions that when executed

generate a request for grant of a set of tokens required to enable modification by an

issuer of the request of at least one characteristic of a file residing in storage memory

(col. 31, lines 42-53 and col. 36, lines 1-4; col. 18, lines 59-67, col. 19, lines 1-17, col. 35, lines 46-60, col. 43, lines 50-67 and col. 44, lines 1-9).

Schmuck does not clearly disclose, "a set of tokens... at least one characteristic of file residing in storage memory." But, however, Schmuck teaches a shared disk file system or file system's cache and token manager grants tokens to nodes or nodes that hold conflicting tokens as a set of tokens (col. 31, lines 42-53 and col. 36, lines 1-4) and characteristic file such as metadata element 's characteristic (col. 30, lines 59-65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Schmuck such as file system's cache, server node and client node so as to have an computer-executable program instructions for network computer node in the client/server or distributed file system via network file system environment.

With respect to claim 22, Schmuck discloses further instructions which when executed causes, if any of said tokens are unavailable for grant as a result of current grant of said tokens, generation of a third message revoking the current grant of said tokens (col. 31, lines 42-53, col. 32, lines 19-36 and col. 36, lines 12-61).

With respect to claim 23, Schmuck discloses said further instruction, in response to said third message, generate a fourth message making said tokens available for grant (col. 31, lines 54-67, col. 32, lines 1-36 and col. 36, lines 12-61).

With respect to claim 24, Schmuck discloses further instructions which when executed cause, if at least one token in the set of tokens is unavailable for grant because the at least one token is currently granted, generation of a second message

that revokes previous grant of the at least one token prior to generating the first

message (col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36).

With respect to claim 25, Schmuck discloses the first message is generated in

response to a request for the grant of the set of tokens generated, the request

specifying all tokens required to be able to modify the at least one characteristic of the

file (col. 31, lines 42-53 and col. 36, lines 1-4; col. 18, lines 59-67, col. 19, lines 1-17,

col. 35, lines 46-60, col. 43, lines 50-67 and col. 44, lines 1-9).

With respect to claim 26, Schmuck discloses the set of tokens comprises all

tokens required to be able to modify the at least one characteristic of the file (col. 31,

lines 42-53 and col. 36, lines 1-4; col. 18, lines 59-67, col. 19, lines 1-17, col. 35, lines

46-60, col. 43, lines 50-67 and col. 44, lines 1-9).

With respect to claim 27, Schmuck discloses means for maintaining a data file in

computer-readable memory (see abstract, col. 16, lines 10—25 and lines 40-49, col. 24,

lines 48-58 and col. 26, lines 19-24; col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44, lines 46-58); and

means for generating a first message requesting grant of a plurality of tokens required

to modify at least on characteristic of said file (col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-

59; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36); means for generating a second

message, in response to said first message, that grants said tokens if said tokens are

available for grant (col. 19, lines 25-67 and col. 20, lines 1-6; col. 31, lines 54-67 and

col. 32, lines 1-36).

Schmuck does not clearly disclose, "means for maintaining a data file in

computer-readable memory and means for generating a first message...", But,

however, Schmuck teaches a shared disk file system or file system's cache utilization

as well as server node as means which generates the first message (col. 16, lines 10-

25 and lines 40-49 and col. 24, lines 48-58) and client node as means which generates

the second message (col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59). Therefore, it would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to employ the teachings of Schmuck such as file system's cache, server node and client

node so as to have a computerized data file system in the client/server or distributed file

system via network file system environment.

With respect to claim 28, Schmuck discloses means for generating, if any of said

tokens are unavailable for grant as a result of current grant of said tokens, a third

message revoking the current grant of said tokens (col. 31, lines 54-67, col. 32, lines 1-

36 and col. 36, lines 12-61).

With respect to claim 29, Schmuck discloses means for generating, in response

to said third message, a fourth message making said tokens available for grant (col. 31,

lines 54-67, col. 32, lines 1-36 and col. 36, lines 12-61).

Claim 30 is essentially the same as claim 1 except that it is directed to a method

rather than a computerized data file system (see abstract, col. 16, lines 10—25 and

lines 40-49, col. 24, lines 48-58 and col. 26, lines 19-24; col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44,

lines 46-58; col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32,

lines 1-36; col. 19, lines 25-67 and col. 20, lines 1-6; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32,

lines 1-36), and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 1 hereinabove.

Claim 31 is essentially the same as claim 3 except that it is directed to a method rather than a computerized data file system (see fig. 2; col. 36, lines 12-67, col. 37, lines 1-15, col. 40, lines 16-21 and col. 54, lines 24-51), and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 3 hereinabove.

Claim 32 is essentially the same as claim 4 except that it is directed to a method rather than a computerized data file system (see fig. 2; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36; col. 30, lines 54-58 and col. 31, lines 29-36), and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 4 hereinabove.

Claim 33 is essentially the same as claim 6 except that it is directed to a method rather than a computerized data file system (see fig. 1 and fig. 2, col. 31, lines 54-67, col. 32, lines 1-36; col. 37, lines 25-36; col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36; see abstract, col. 16, lines 10-25, col. 20, lines 44-57); and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 6 hereinabove.

Claim 34 is essentially the same as claim 9 except that it is directed to a method rather than a computerized data file system (see fig. 2; col. 36, lines 12-67, col. 37, lines 1-15, col. 40, lines 16-21 and col. 54, lines 24-51; col. 31, lines 42-53 and col. 36, lines 1-40), and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 9 hereinabove.

Claim 35 is essentially the same as claim 10 except that it is directed to a method rather than a computerized data file system (col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36; see abstract, col. 16, lines 10-25 and lines 40-49, col. 24, lines 48-58 and col. 26, lines 19-24; col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44, lines 46-58; col. 16, lines 52-67, col. 17, lines 1-

20 and col. 30, lines 59-65), and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 10 hereinabove.

Claim 36 is essentially the same as claim 11 except that it is directed to a method rather than a computerized data file system (see abstract, col. 16, lines 10—25 and lines 40-49, col. 24, lines 48-58 and col. 26, lines 19-24; col. 39, lines 58-63 and col. 44, lines 46-58; col. 45, lines 3-11 and col. 46, lines 55-59; col. 31, lines 54-67 and col. 32, lines 1-36), and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 11 hereinabove.

Claim 37 is essentially the same as claim 13 except that it is directed to a method rather than a computerized data file system (col. 18, lines 59-67 and col. 19, lines 1-16), and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 13 hereinabove.

Contact Information

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Anh Ly whose telephone number is (703) 306-4527. The examiner can be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, see the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu, can be reached on (703) 305-4393.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 746-7238 (after Final Communication)

or:

(703) 746-7239 (for formal communications intended for entry)

or:

(703) 746-7240 (for informal or draft communications, or Customer Service
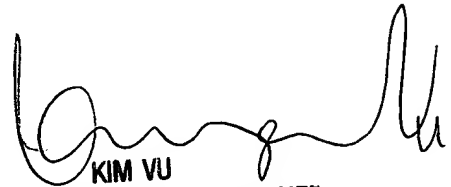
Center, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal

Drive, Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor (receptionist).

Inquiries of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be

directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

AL

Jan. 17th, 2002.

KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100